



WORLD 3
 Students, faculty and alumni discuss the natural disaster in Japan.

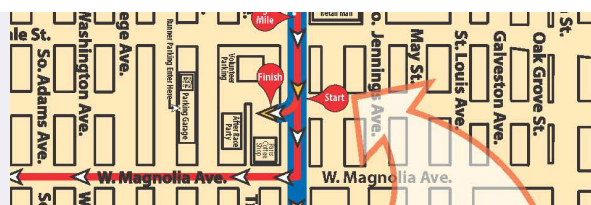
HOUSTON CONNECTION

No. 14 Frogs welcome some familiar faces to Fort Worth for weekend series against Cougars, page 15



Senior Joe Weik stretches for a throw to try and get a Texas State runner out at first. The Frogs rallied in the seventh inning to a 3-1 victory.
 PAIGE MCDARLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CHARITY 2
 Joe's Run adds a 10K race to the traditional 5K.



MUSIC 2
 34th annual Jazz Festival features trombonist Alex Iles.



INTERNATIONAL

Students, alumni share worries over family in Japan

By Brett Anderson
Staff Reporter

Junior accounting major Cathy Lammers said communicating with her family in Japan, located 35 miles from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, has been difficult because of downed phone lines.

Lammers said her aunt, uncle and cousin were forced to evacuate their hometown of Fukushima because they did not have water. She added that she has been following the news, but feels helpless about the situation.

"I don't even know what to do," she said. "Yeah, I could donate money online, but I still see all these people that have lost literally everything. It's just hard seeing the pictures and videos of peoples' lives literally being washed away."

According to the *Associated Press*, Japan's police agency reported a death toll of 9,800 as of Thursday morning. Another 17,500

were missing.

Lammers, who went to school in Tokyo until she was eight years old, said she felt the entire country had gained a greater sense of nationalism after the disaster.

"They all share this mentality of helping each other out and doing things for the greater good," Lammers said.

One TCU alumnus living in Japan wrote in an email that his family and friends were all safe, but he has realized the severe impact the disaster had on his country.

Keita Aoyama lives in the city of Aichi, approximately 380 miles from where the earthquake hit. Aoyama wrote in an email that nothing had changed dramatically for him personally, but many refugees were suffering from a lack of food, water and electricity.

"I personally realized that kind of tragedy can happen in real life, not only in a film," Aoyama wrote.

Two weeks after the

March 11 earthquake and tsunami, Aoyama wrote that the country was afraid of a nuclear power incident. Officials in Tokyo warned that children under the age of one should not drink tap water because of the radiation levels in the city's water supply, Aoyama wrote.

"I personally realized that kind of tragedy can happen in real life, not only in a film."

Keita Aoyama
TCU alumnus

Additionally, Aoyama wrote that he was worried about the potential for earthquakes in his city. He wrote that many scientists predicted the next large earthquake would hit Aichi.

"All we can do is to learn from this tragedy and prepare," Aoyama wrote.

Yumiko Keitges, instruc-

tor of Japanese, said she knew of three former TCU students currently living in Japan. Keitges said one lives near the epicenter in Iwate Prefecture, but all three were safe.

Keitges said there were no TCU students studying abroad in Japan currently, but the disaster has impacted current students.

Senior graphic design major Aki Omikawa, a student whose family is originally from Chiba Prefecture, Japan, said her family and friends were safe, but also mentioned the impact the disaster had on the country as a whole.

"I think they're upset and surprised," Omikawa said. "They weren't ready for that."

Omikawa also said the magnitude of the earthquake was hard to comprehend. She said earthquakes in Japan are common, but she was very surprised when she first saw the news about this disaster.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

A child touches a bottle of mineral water distributed to a nursery in Tokyo Thursday, March 24, 2011, a day after Tokyo officials reported that radioactive iodine in the city's tap water measured more than twice the level considered safe for babies. The label reads "Emergency drinking water. Water collected at the foot of Mount Fuji for storage."

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PERSPECTIVES

The Skiff View

Panel shows usefulness of social media

On Wednesday, three TCU political science professors, Manoj Dorraj, Ralph Carter and Michael Dodson, hosted a panel about the recent uprisings in the Middle East. The professors said they wanted to provide a proper context as to why these events were occurring so students could be informed on an issue that most know little about. The major point of discussion was about just how essential social media websites, like Facebook and Twitter, have been in organizing protests as well as in keeping open lines of communication with other resistance members.

This movement, which has swept across several countries now, has been largely a youth-driven movement. Too many times, people are told that social media is making this new generation poor communicators or that we live our lives on these sites instead of having actual conversations with live human beings. And while that may be the case for some students who click that refresh button every five minutes to see what their friend is cooking for dinner, to use these cases as proof that social media is a waste of one's time is irresponsible.

It's nice to see the professors champion this new form of communication using real, empirical evidence rather than standing up on soapboxes and saying this newest thing is bad. And in the age where shouting matches and idiocracy reign supreme in the news, the stance the professors took is a rare one.

News editor Patrick Burns for the editorial board.

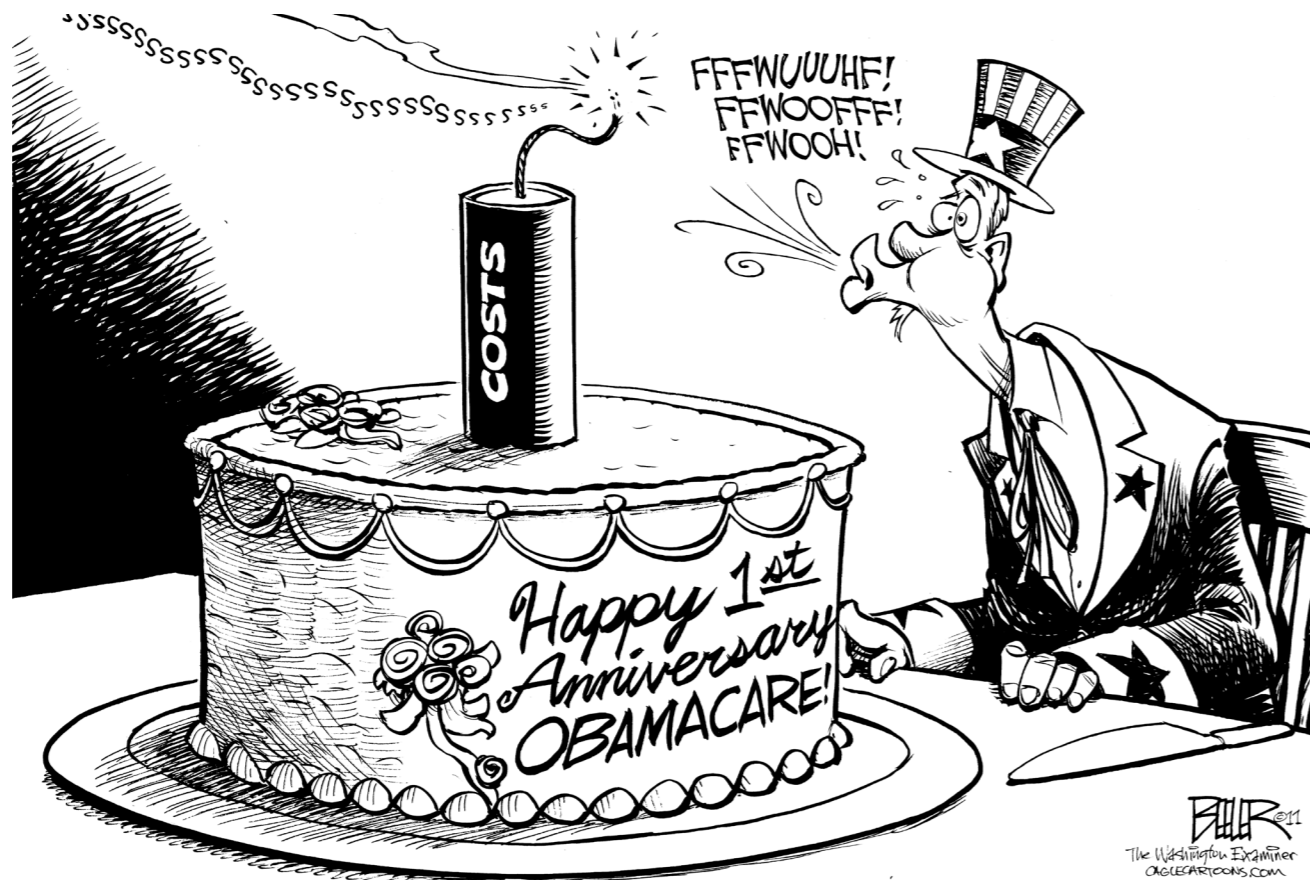
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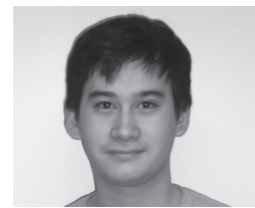
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Nate Beeler is an editorial cartoonist for The Washington Examiner.

'NY Times' charging for Web news won't work



Jason Lam

I don't read *The New York Times*. Given that many students pay for a subscription to *The Wall Street Journal* in student fees and that the BBC and Reuters offer more up-to-date articles on practically everything that is newsworthy on their websites, there's just not a whole lot of reason for me to ever visit *The New York Times* website. Evidently, *The Times* wants to push me away even more.

According to a March 17 article from *The Associated Press*, *The New York Times* website, NYTimes.com, will change from free to very restricted for the average Internet user on Monday. If you already subscribe to the *Times*, you retain full access. If not, you are allowed 20 free articles per month. After that, depending on how you want to access the site, you could be charged up to \$35 a month.

The rationale behind this change is that it will make the *Times* more money.

Hard copies of newspapers are on the decline. Online ad revenue does not generate the kind of money the *Times* would like to see. So charge for access to the website and see the money roll in — except that the *Times* tried this already. In 2005, the *Times* started charging a much lower price to access the articles from their more famous columnists. The project was canceled in two years. Their solution now is to be more restrictive?

As some have already pointed out, the *Times* should really have taken a lesson from the Recording Industry Association of America. The music industry saw that sales of hard copies of music were down. It tried to be more restrictive with how its product got out through suing for copyright infringement and digital rights management. However, one would be hard pressed to find anyone who believes that what the RIAA has done has helped the music industry to any significant degree. And remember, the RIAA had the law on its side as well. The *Times* just has a profit motive.

I recognize *The New York Times* is a venerable newspaper, but that doesn't impact me enough to make me subscribe. What could make me subscribe is some sort of unique content that is relevant to me. What could make me subscribe is a premier and unbiased

presentation of the news so compelling and far beyond its peers that it makes other newspapers look bad.

The problem is that news is universal, and the Internet has made access to it easy. For free. *The New York Times* has no copyright on the news, only control over its viewpoint and its columnists. If I want to read an article about the news, I can simply go to another news source, which is what I have been doing even without the incentive of avoiding payment. For any article that is unique to *The New York Times*, workarounds have already been developed for accessing those articles for free.

What will most likely happen is this: the *Times* will make less money. Casual readers like me will stay even further away from them. Some who prefer *The New York Times* but don't subscribe will simply pick up and move elsewhere. Subscribers will stay, but then the *Times* doesn't make any additional money from them. What the *Times* should have done instead was try to address people like me. Find casual news readers and somehow convince them to subscribe to the paper. But they didn't. I don't read *The New York Times*, and now, I'm not about to start.

Jason Lam is a junior mathematics major from Chicago.

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Subscriptions: Call 817-257-6274
Rates are \$30 per semester.
Location: Moudy Building South
Convergence Center, Room 212
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The TCU Daily Skiff is an official student publication of Texas Christian University, produced by students of TCU and sponsored by the Schiefel School of Journalism. It operates under the policies of the Student Publications Committee, composed of representatives from the student body, staff, faculty and administration. The Skiff is published Tuesday through Friday during fall and spring semesters except finals week and holidays.

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PERSPECTIVES

Distress call shows Facebook could have more uses



Kerri Feczko

Finally, Facebook "stalkers" may have helped someone out.

Facebook users employ it as a distraction, a photo album, a networking tool and even sometimes as a joke. Never would I have thought that Facebook could potentially be a life-saver as well.

According to a March 18 Associated Press article, Nitesh

Bhakta, a 20-year-old Georgia college student, saved his family from masked intruders when he asked for help via his Facebook status.

A common instant reaction would mostly likely be, "Why didn't he just use a phone?" — which I will admit was mine as well. Has our generation really gotten to the point where we respond faster to Facebook updates than we would to phone calls or text messages? In an emergency situation, would our first reaction be to update Facebook for help? However, according to the AP report, Bhakta did not have access to a phone or an escape route at the time. Before quickly climb-

ing into his attic to hide from the intruders that didn't see him, he impulsively grabbed his laptop. And it's a good thing, too.

After displaying "HELLLLLLLLL!" as his Facebook status and receiving instant responses, Bhakta asked his friend to call 9-1-1. The police responded to the call and arrived at Bhakta's house after his grandmother and teenage sister had already been tied up and the house rummaged through, according to the report.

In retrospect, that was quick thinking. Without a phone available, the smartest response would be to reach out through the increasingly popular social net-

working site. According to Facebook statistics, there are more than 500 million active users with more than 200 million accessing Facebook via their cell phones. According to the statistics, the average user has 130 friends and all users together spend more than 700 billion minutes per month on Facebook. Based on those numbers, I'd say the odds of having your Facebook status viewed are quite in your favor.

Thanks to the quick social media response, police were able to catch one of at least three of the robbers, according to the report. More importantly, the police arrived before the intruders caused any harm to Bhakta's family.

It was a different way of responding to an emergency, but it worked. This could become a new method for people to request help in a scenario that restricts access to telephones. It may seem silly at first glance, but it definitely beats the alternative of what could have happened.

I may use it to put off studying for a test or writing a paper, but maybe someday it could be used again for a greater good for someone else. And it may make you think twice when going through your Facebook news feed.

Kerri Feczko is a broadcast journalism and political science double major from Flower Mound.

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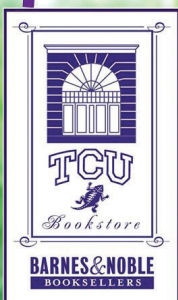


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WEIRD NEWS

Associated Press

Instant karma for suspected Idaho wallet thief

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Chalk it up to instant karma.

An Idaho man suspected of stealing a wallet from the desk of a prospective employer has been arrested after calling police to report

that his wallet was missing.

The Idaho Statesman reports Boise police realized the man who reported the missing wallet matched the description of the suspected wallet thief and arrested 25-year-old Daniel Damico on suspicion of burglary and grand theft.

Police say they believe Damico disposed of the stolen wallet, but used a credit

card to buy tobacco at two stores. It was when he was leaving the second store Tuesday that he thought he may have dropped his own wallet.

Police recovered the credit card and the stolen wallet. Officers suspect someone else found Damico's wallet. It has not been recovered.

Mont. man gets year for fraud; used female voice

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — A Montana man who mimicked a female voice is ex-

changing his ill-gotten Tempur-Pedic mattress for a cot in a federal prison.

The U.S. attorney's office in Idaho says 60-year-old Ricky Vaughn Barry of Hamilton, Mont., was sentenced Wednesday to a year and a day in prison for impersonating his ex-wife when speaking to company representatives.

The calls to open a line of credit and order a \$4,000 bed and sheets were recorded.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Mitchell in Boise

said the case against the former Coeur d'Alene resident developed after his ex-wife pulled her credit report and found accounts used to purchase the bed and a laptop.

The federal charges did not include the laptop purchase, but both items were sold to help pay just over \$7,700 in restitution.

No free train ride for W. Colorado man

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. (AP) — There was no such thing as a free ride for

a western Colorado man who hopped a freight train to catch a ride to work.

Glenwood Springs police say the cost for 40-year-old James Salazar was three days in jail after his arrest on a misdemeanor trespassing charge. He pleaded guilty.

The Daily Sentinel reports the Fruita man was arrested after he called 911 from atop an eastbound train Saturday night. Police say Salazar wanted off the train because it was cold and the train hadn't stopped at his destination.

NATIONAL NEWS

Associated Press

FAA chief suspends dozing air traffic controller

WASHINGTON (AP) — Authorities have suspended a control tower supervisor working alone overnight who couldn't be roused to guide two airliners landing at Washington's Reagan airport, the nation's top aviation official said Thursday.

"As a former airline pilot, I am personally outraged that this controller did not meet his responsibility to help land these two airplanes," Federal Aviation Administration Administrator Randy Babbitt said.

An aviation official who spoke on condition of anonymity because an investigation is underway said the supervisor — the lone air traffic controller on duty at the airport around midnight Tuesday — fell asleep.

"I am determined to get to the bottom of this situation for the safety of the traveling public," Babbitt said.

The supervisor, who wasn't named, has been suspended from operational duties pending an investigation, Babbitt said.

On Wednesday, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood directed FAA to launch a nationwide study of airport tower staffing. He also directed that at least two controllers be on duty at night at Reagan, which is located just across the Potomac River from Washington in Northern Virginia.

"It is not acceptable to have just one controller in the tower managing air traffic in this critical air space," LaHood said.

The head of the union that represents air traffic controllers praised LaHood's actions, saying changes in staffing are needed.

"One-person shifts are unsafe. Period," Paul Rinaldi, president of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, said in a statement Thursday. He said the union has long been concerned about single controller shifts, citing a 2006 air crash in Lexington, Ky., in which a Comair regional airliner attempted a take-off at night from the wrong runway. A single air traffic controller was on duty in the airport tower at the time.

"The administration inherited an unsafe policy of staffing to budget instead of putting safety first," Rinaldi said. "We fully support the administration's aggressive actions to change this policy."

In this week's incident, the pilots of the two planes — American Airlines flight 1012, a Boeing 737 with 91 passengers and 6 crew members on board, and United Airlines flight 628T, an Airbus A320 with 63 passengers and five crew members — were unable to raise a controller at Reagan as they approached the airport.

They were, however, in contact with controllers at a regional FAA facility about 40 miles away in Warrenton, Va. Those controllers tried repeatedly to contact the tower by phone, but their calls went unanswered, said National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Peter Knudson.

The board is also reviewing the incident in order to decide whether to open a full-fledged investigation, he said.

Man accused of leaving explosive at US building

DETROIT (AP) — A Michigan man with a history of bizarre rants and threats against the FBI was charged Thursday with trying to use an explosive to damage a federal building in downtown Detroit, authorities said.

Gary Mikulich, 42, is accused of leaving a metal cash box containing explosive components outside the McNamara Building, which houses the FBI, the Internal Revenue Service, immigration court and other agencies. A tool bag holding the box was discovered on Feb. 26 and brought inside the building, but it sat for 20 days before authorities destroyed it last week, the FBI said in a court filing.

The exploded materials included pieces of PVC pipe, a timer and black electrical tape, agent Mark Davidson wrote.

Mikulich lives in Kingsford in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, about 500 miles northwest of Detroit. He was arrested Thursday and is due in federal court Friday in Marquette, also in the Upper Peninsula.

TEXAS NEWS

Associated Press

Texas House gives final OK to voter ID bill

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas House gave final passage Thursday to a bill requiring residents to show photo identification before voting.

The House, as expected, voted 101-48 along mostly party lines to send the bill back to the Senate. The two chambers will have to reconcile minor differences and settle on a compromise version before the legislation can go to Gov. Rick Perry and be signed into law. Perry gave the bill "emergency" status earlier this year, putting it on the legislative fast track.

Democrats, who fought without success to soften the bill in a major floor debate Wednesday, say it will make it harder for poor and minority Texans to vote. Republicans, including all members of the Hispanic Republican Conference, say it's needed to reduce voter fraud.

Big rig cab left dangling over Fort Worth highway

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Three people have been rescued after a Fort Worth accident in which the cab of an 18-wheeler tanker truck ended up dangling over an elevated Interstate 20 ramp.

Two people in a car that was trapped under the empty water tanker truck were rescued about three hours after the accident happened early Thursday.

A fire department ladder truck was used to help reach

cast provisional ballots but would have to show identification within six days to have their votes counted.

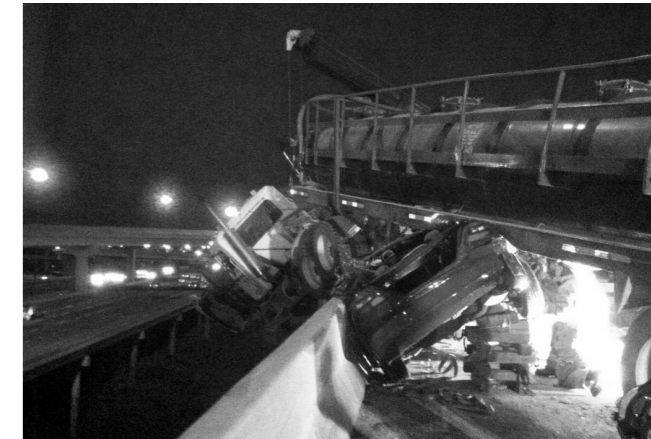
Republicans have been working to pass voter ID legislation for several years, and Democrats have been fighting it ferociously.

Perry applauded passage of the bill in a statement emailed to reporters and said he looked forward to the legislation "reaching my desk very soon."

At least eight U.S. states have strict photo ID requirements, according to a late 2010 study by the National Conference of State Legislatures. Since Republicans gained power in last year's elections, photo ID bills have been working their way through state legislatures, including in Arkansas, Kansas and North Carolina. The Texas legislation is modeled after similar laws in Georgia and Indiana, its Republican sponsors said.

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Three people have been rescued after a Fort Worth accident in which the cab of an 18-wheeler tanker truck ended up dangling over an elevated Interstate 20 ramp.

Two people in a car that was trapped under the empty water tanker truck were rescued about three hours after the accident happened early Thursday. A fire department ladder truck was used to help reach



MATT ZAVADSKY / ASSOCIATED PRESS
In this Thursday, March 24, 2011 photo provided by MedStar, emergency crews work at the scene where a truck driver was rescued from his 18-wheeler dangling over an Interstate 20 ramp as well as two people were trapped in a car after the wreck in Fort Worth.

the trucker and ease him from the cab. He was treated at the scene for minor injuries.

Both people extricated from the car also were receiving medical attention. Further details on their conditions were not immediately available.

The cause of the pre-dawn wreck is sought.

Texas find suggests earlier settlers in N. America

WASHINGTON (AP) — The discovery of ancient stone tools at an archaeological dig in Texas could push back the presence of humans in North America, perhaps by as much as 2,500 years.

Thousands of artifacts dating to between 13,200 and 15,500 years ago were uncovered by researchers led by Michael R. Waters of Texas A&M University. They report the discovery in Friday's edition of the journal Science.

The find was located 5 feet below materials left by the well-known Clovis culture, which was once thought to have been the first American settlers around 13,000 years ago.

It was "like finding the Holy Grail," Waters said in a telephone interview. To find what appears to be a large open-air campsite "is really gratifying. Lucky and gratifying."

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1 Work on a batter
5 Grandly appointed
9 Stand for
14 Strong-spined volume
15 Forte
16 "I ___ Piano"; Irving Berlin hit
17 61-Across Asian appetizer?
19 Class figs.
20 Bleak
21 61-Across cheer?
23 Spine movement
25 Code-cracking
26 Chatspeak qualifier
27 Batter's supply
29 Select, in a way
32 "Then again ..."
33 Doglike carnivore
36 Ballet
37 61-Across musical?
39 Ashes, e.g.
42 Geometry basic
43 Animal's gullet
46 Personally give
48 Meadow bloomer in the buttercup family
50 Hamburger's article
51 A.L. rival of N.Y.
54 Flashes
55 61-Across gauging
59 Seed coating
60 Inspire profoundly
61 Not well thought out
64 Great Lakes explorer La
65 Convenient abbr.
66 "Pretty Woman" actor
67 Fishhook connector
68 Disallow
69 Highland tongue
DOWN
1 Letters at Indy
2 Head-scratcher
3 Fossil indentation
4 Be haunted by, perhaps
5 Square on the table?
6 Sports MD's specialty
7 Great warmly
8 Dwells incessantly (on)
9 Chow chow
10 Town name ending
11 They don't laugh when they're tickled
12 Discredits
13 Hardly a head-scratcher
18 Purple hue
22 Eats
23 Code user
24 Comedic actress
28 1988 self-titled C&W album
30 FBI facility since 1932
31 Nice street
34 Disallow
35 Diva's moment
37 Daffodils' digs
38 Bell sound
39 1889 work of art deemed unsuitable for general display at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair
40 Title savant in a 1988 Oscar-winning film
41 Dignity
43 Handle
44 Pair in a rack
45 Horror filmmaker
47 Gram, case
49 Illusion
52 Gasped in delight
53 Ray in the sea
56 Select
57 Sailing stabilizer
58 Vigorous style
62 Annoying buzzer
63 Danish capital?

By John Lampkin 3/25/11
Thursday's Puzzle Solved
BATHS ASSAD CAW
INUIT DHABI UMA
DINNERDATES TAX
DEISM CINE
SOURDOUGHBREAD
PUBSENIERE
HEARAGREEDTO
LIMIGRATIONLAW
LEADROLESERIES
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39 1889 work of art deemed unsuitable for general display at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair
40 Title savant in a 1988 Oscar-winning film
41 Dignity
43 Handle
44 Pair in a rack
45 Horror filmmaker
47 Gram, case
49 Illusion
52 Gasped in delight
53 Ray in the sea
56 Select
57 Sailing stabilizer
58 Vigorous style
62 Annoying buzzer
63 Danish capital?

U

"Portuguese Water Dog"

Difficulty ★★★★★ (390pts)

How to play:
Spell the phrase in the grid above it, writing each unique letter only once.

The correct solution will spell the complete phrase along a single continuous spelling path that moves horizontally, vertically and diagonally. Fill the grid from square to square - revisiting letters as needed to complete the spelling path in order. Each letter will appear only once in the grid.

Thursday's Solution

W L S H
P E K C
M O
I G R B

"Pembroke Welsh Corgi"
Difficulty ★★★★★ (180pts)

4 5 8 3 6
7 5 1 2 8
9 3 1 6 4 3 8
4 8 5 7 9 8 2 9
6 7 5 4 6 2 8
5 9 8 3 1

Directions

Fill in the grid so that every 3x3 box, row and column contains the digits 1 through 9 without repeating numbers.

See Tuesday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

Thursday's Solution

1 4 2 9 5 8 3 7 6
8 7 5 1 6 3 9 4 2
9 6 3 4 7 2 1 5 8
2 9 1 6 8 7 4 3 5
4 8 6 3 1 5 7 2 9
3 5 7 2 4 9 8 6 1
6 3 8 7 2 1 5 9 4
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RANGO (PG) 11:45 2:45 6:10 9:05
RED RIDING HOOD (PG 13) 10:40
THE KING'S SPEECH (R) 1:20 4:20
THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU (PG 13) 12:30 4:15
SUCKER PUNCH (PG 13) 10:30 1:15 4:00 7:00 10:00 10:10 11:40
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LIMITLESS (PG 13) 12:20 4:10 7:15 10:20
HALL PASS (R) 7:50
MARS NEEDS MOMS (PG) 10:35 1:10 3:30
RANGO (PG) 12:10 5:00 6:45 9:35
RED RIDING HOOD (PG 13) 3:20
PAUL (R) 2:00 4:50 8:00 10:50
THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU (PG 13) 11:00 4:30
SUCKER PUNCH (PG 13) 10:30 1:15 4:00 7:00 10:00 11:00 11:45
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LIMITLESS (PG 13) 11:00 1:35 4:10 7:15 10:00
DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 (PG) 11:25 1:50 4:20 6:50 9:25
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OPINION

Time was right to cut ties with Christian after 2010-11 season



MAX FAULKNER / MCT

Head coach Jim Christian talks to his team in the first half against New Mexico at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum on Saturday, Feb. 26.



Josh Davis

As the men's basketball team hung with BYU two weeks ago, it was evident: TCU could care. The players could win. Fans would watch.

And last week, basking in the afterglow of a 64-58 loss to the then-No. 8 Cougars, Athletics Director Chris Del Conte announced men's coach Jim Christian will return next season for his fourth year in purple.

But the fact remains that 40 good minutes are not enough for one more year. The Frogs' season finale in the Mountain West Conference Championship should have been Christian's last as TCU coach. Had he not received an unlikely extension after his first season in Fort Worth, it's unclear if he still would have been.

Christian is a good coach and a great person. He came to TCU with a sterling record from Kent State with a Mid-American Conference record .704 winning percentage where he had six 20-win seasons. He's unfailingly nice and charming in a Brooklyn, fast-talking kind of way.

And he cares. Of course, he's passionate on the sidelines. Christian looks devastated after close losses and elated when his team gets a win. But beyond that, he's quick to give praise to his players when it is due and doesn't call out individuals when he wants results from the team.

But all that being said, this relationship is in its second year of silent dinners. You know a divorce is imminent, but on the surface, everything is fine. It would be in the best interest of both parties in the long term to go their separate ways, but there are strings attached.

In 2008, Christian was

signed to a five-year contract. His first season, the Frogs went 14-17 in a season built around Kevin Langford's standout senior year. After that season, there was reason for hope — and four years left on his contract. But then-Athletics Director Danny Morrison gave Christian another two-year extension based on that one year of play.

If TCU were to buy out the remainder of Christian's contract today, they'd have to buy out four years instead of the two they would be left with in his original deal. While the university doesn't release salary figures, it would likely be a rather large check, plus a signing bonus to pay a new coach.

The athletics department can say what it will about this team turning the corner, but the fact is the program is returning six players from an 11-win team.

The athletics department can say what it will about this team turning the corner, but the fact is the program is returning six players from an 11-win team. While all six can certainly be contributors, none have shown the ability Langford showed to be a game-changing player. As currently built, this team is bound for another season of fewer than 15 wins.

So what if they can get a game-changing freshman?

It would be new for the Christian era. He has swung for the fences, adding guys with tons of potential who have been slow to put it together — see Garlon Green, who could be very good next year but had an up and down freshman campaign. If the program expects a multi-win swing next year, it will have to recruit guys who can play immediately and play well without character issues.

The Frogs need someone with the obedience of a golden retriever and the

basketball abilities of Air Bud. That has not been the case thus far, and this team can't afford any more misses before heading to the Big East.

Christian had to kick two of his own recruits off the team this season, one of them the team's leading scorer. While his resolve is admirable in sacrificing potential — and needed — wins for the good of the program and team atmosphere, he also made the choice to add those players to the team in the first place.

Finally, the right guy was available.

Billy Gillispie made his name taking UTEP and Texas A&M to the postseason in his first year following poor seasons. He is an excellent recruiter, and has done it in Texas. After a mildly successful two-year stint at Kentucky, he was fired. He was hired at Texas Tech about the same time Del Conte was announcing Christian would stay.

Say Gillispie had been offered the chance to live in Fort Worth instead of Lubbock, play in the Big East instead of the Big 12, recruit in Dallas/Fort Worth instead of West Texas and made similar money to do so. Does he turn it down?

Firing someone is a terrible thing to have to do, especially to a good guy and good coach like Jim Christian. Calling for anyone's job shouldn't be taken lightly, particularly when no one outside the athletics department can see the financial realities of it.

However, from a logical perspective, it is time to part ways.

The program has not improved on the court the way anyone involved wanted and doesn't figure to next season. If both part ways in a year, another season in neutral won't make Christian any more marketable or the team any more prepared for the Big East.

Josh Davis is a senior broadcast journalism major from Dallas.

Check out sports editor Ryne Sullivan's take on Christian's future as head coach in Tuesday's paper.

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SPORTS

BASEBALL

Schlossnagle leads No. 14 Frogs against 'familiar' U of H

By John Andrew Willis
Staff Writer

Head baseball coach Jim Schlossnagle said he never doubted his team's attitude or effort, but a win over the Texas State Bobcats Tuesday evening may have taken some of the steam out of his doubts regarding No. 14 TCU's situational intelligence and execution going into TCU's weekend series.

The Horned Frogs (13-7) will face the University of Houston Cougars (11-11) in a three-game series beginning tonight at 6:30 p.m.

The Cougars travel to Fort Worth with a few familiar faces, most notably Todd Whitting, who left TCU as associate head coach just months ago to become Houston's head coach. Also, Houston assistant coach Steven Trout played at TCU in 2006-07, and assistant coach Jack Cressend pitched for Schlossnagle at Tulane.

"It's going to be a little bit of an old home week," Schlossnagle said. "It's not something I particularly enjoy because I don't enjoy competing with people I'm close to. I know how losing feels, and I certainly don't wish that on people I consider close personal friends. We hope they have a great time, but

we hope the Horned Frogs can come out with a few wins."

Tonight, TCU starting pitcher Kyle Winkler (4-1, 0.99 ERA) is slated to face Houston's Mo Wiley (1-1, 3.77 ERA). Winkler recorded his first loss of the season last Friday when TCU traveled to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. On Saturday, TCU ace Matt Purke (3-1, 0.47 ERA) will face the Cougars' Jordan Lewis (2-0, 4.67 ERA). Both Wiley and Lewis recorded wins last weekend when Houston hosted Kent State.

With the Frogs in the midst of a 13-game homestand, the crowd could prove to be a factor this weekend at Lupton Stadium. TCU ranks ninth nationally in attendance, averaging 4,399 fans per game, while the Cougars play to an average crowd, home and away, of 1,983.

TCU's current three-game winning streak began last Saturday night in Las Vegas after losing to UNLV on Friday night.

On Tuesday night against Texas State, the Frogs looked like they might not get the win as they trailed 1-0 after six innings. TCU eventually beat the Bobcats 3-1, with all three runs coming in the bottom of the seventh inning.



PAIGE MCARDLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Junior Brance Rivera dives back to first base to avoid being picked off against Texas State on Tuesday night. The Frogs have a three-game series against the University of Houston starting today at 6:30 pm.

Schlossnagle said on Tuesday that he didn't feel the Frogs necessarily played poorly in the games they've lost but that things haven't been going their way in the first few weeks of the season.

"The game of baseball has been kicking our rear ends," Schlossnagle said. "We've pitched lights-out, we've played good defense, and normally when you do those things, you

win. Hopefully, throughout the course of the season, we'll catch up to where our record should be."

In a broad sense that surely applies more broadly than baseball, Schlossnagle often says that the only two things the team can control is its effort and attitude. Despite the beginning of the season not going quite like the pre-season No. 1 and No. 2 rankings would indi-

cate, he hasn't seen an absence of these key ingredients to success.

"I've told the team all along that I've never doubted our effort, and I've never doubted our attitude," Schlossnagle said. "I've doubted our intelligence on a few plays. I've doubted our ability to execute sometimes. But I haven't doubted the two things that matter the most, at least in our program."

Series notables

Tonight's game with the Cougars will be the 97th time the programs have met. Houston holds a 52-42-2 series advantage over TCU. TCU holds a 10-3 series advantage since Schlossnagle took over the program. The Frogs have won four straight against the Cougars.

Weekend Preview

Equestrian

The No. 8 Horned Frogs will close their regular season at home tomorrow against No. 4 Oklahoma State.

"Oklahoma State is a strong team and this will give us a good chance to get ready for April and the National Championships," head equestrian coach Gary Reynolds wrote in an email. "We just need to be accurate and execute our game plan."

TCU dropped to No. 8 last week after losing to nationally ranked Georgia. The loss was a first for the team at home since the 2008-09 season. Junior rider Courtney Chown kept her perfect record for Horsemanship intact as she moved to 8-0 for the season.

When: 9 a.m. tomorrow

Where: October Hill Farm — Hudson Oaks

Track & Field

The TCU track and field program will travel to Arizona to participate in the ASU Invitational tomorrow. The team raked in the trophies last week at the Horned Frog Invitational Friday claiming 11 first-place titles. The men's 4x100 relay was dominated by the Frogs, who took home two first-place honors.

When: Tomorrow

Where: Tempe, Ariz.

Men's Tennis

Match 1

TCU at Rice

The Frogs head to Houston to battle Rice tomorrow riding a two-match losing streak. Although the TCU men's tennis team fell short to No. 31 Oklahoma in a close match (4-3) last

week, seniors Emanuel Brighiu and Christopher Price beat the opposing team in doubles with an 8-2 win. TCU is currently No. 61 and is 5-10 for the season.

When: 11 a.m. tomorrow

Where: Houston, Texas

Match 2

TCU vs. San Diego State

After a day of rest following Saturday's match against Rice, the Frogs will return home to take on San Diego State. The Aztecs (2-10) are coming off of a loss to nationally ranked Purdue during the SDSU-USD Invitational last week.

When: 2 p.m. Monday

Where: Fort Worth, Texas

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OPINION

Should TCU have parted ways with Jim Christian after the 2010-11 season?

SPORTS

SPRING SPORTS

Equestrian, track & field and tennis will compete this weekend.



Dallas Mavericks' Rodrigue Beaubois lays up a shot against the Golden State Warriors during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, March 16, 2011, in Oakland, Calif.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

'Roddy-B' learning on the fly for Mavs

By Myka Williams

Staff Writer

After suffering a fractured left foot which kept him inactive for 38 games, all eyes have been on Dallas guard Rodrigue Beaubois since his return to the hardwood Feb. 16.

The 6-foot-2 guard finished with a solid 14 points and six assists in a 127-109 home rout against New York March 10 and tallied 15 points and four assists in a 101-73 rout of Golden State Sunday. Beaubois has averaged 19.5 minutes per game in 16 games this season, but head coach Rick Carlisle is looking to extend minutes for Beaubois.

"His conditioning has been a little behind, but we're going to continue to push him in practice and push him on our off days."

Jason Terry

Dallas Guard

"He is showing great progress and is playing to exhaustion," Carlisle said. "I'm looking to get him in more. To maintain the physical level he does is substantial. I'm very pleased with his progress. I want to keep developing him and extend his minutes."

The second-year pro tallied 13 points, six assists and three steals in his season debut against Sacramento. He also had 15 points and two steals all in the first half in a home loss to Memphis March 6.

Dallas guard Jason Terry said Beaubois is making plays each time he is on the hardwood.

"He's been solid," Terry said. "His conditioning has been a little behind, but we're going to continue to push him in practice and push him on our off days. He's quick as ever, you know he can make plays and he's scoring great in the minutes that he's given."

While the Guadeloupe native has had eight games in double-digit scoring range

going into last night's game against the Minnesota Timberwolves, there seems to be a statistical discrepancy in Beaubois' effectiveness against quality playoff competition. "Roddy-B" managed only two points on 1-7 shooting in a March 12 96-91 loss to the Los Angeles Lakers. Against the Western Conference leading San Antonio Spurs, Beaubois managed just eight points on 4-11 shooting in a 97-91 loss to the Spurs March 18.

Baubois, however, has started 15 of the 16 games he has played before last night, averaging 10.3 points per game as he tries to get in to midseason playing shape just as the playoffs loom on the horizon. Mavs' owner Mark Cuban said he sees Beaubois as a potential individual scoring threat on any given night. Beaubois exploded for a career-high 40 points and drained a career-high nine 3-pointers nearly a year ago today against Golden State.

Baubois exhibits great footwork, Cuban said.

"He's playing great and does a great job off the dribble," Cuban said.

Selected in 2009 as the 25th overall draft pick by the Oklahoma City Thunder, Dallas quickly acquired Beaubois in a trade. The French guard was discovered at an open basketball camp in Guadeloupe by NBA player Mickael Pietrus.

Dallas is currently No. 3 in the Western Conference, 1.5 games behind the Lakers for the two seed before last night's game and 7.5 games behind the Spurs.

Mavs center Tyson Chandler, who made his return this week after recovering from a sprained right ankle, said Beaubois has been exciting.

"He's been great for us," Chandler said. "He is the energy and youth that we need. He definitely brings more excitement to the team. I feel the longer and better condition he is in, the greater he is going to be for us."

Sports editor Ryne Sulier contributed to this article.